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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

WU, XIAO MIN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2674

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/941,620	Applicant(s) IWASAKI, JUNICHI	
	Examiner XIAO M. WU	Art Unit 2674	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 7-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 2, 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith (US Patent No. 6,055,592) in view of Kniazze et al (US Patent No. 6,417,911).

As to claim 2, Smith discloses a mouse connected via an interface (204, Fig. 2) to a personal computer (212) comprising: a casing body (100), provided with a space (106) for housing a removable data storage medium (104) therein; the removable data storage medium being directly accessible as an auxiliary data storage medium by the personal computer via the mouse interface (e.g. the card data read from the card in the mouse system matches the card stored in the computer, the access control program grants access to the computer, see col. 6, lines 19-21, in other words the card is an auxiliary storage medium from the computer; also see col. 4, lines 60-67); a data processor (202, 204), which communicates data stored in the removable data storage medium bi-directional between the personal computer and the data storage medium housed in the casing body (e.g. the computer requests card data from a card reader interface and the card reader interface requests card data from a card in the card reader. Preferably, the card data is read from the card by the card reader and supplied to the converter via card reader interface, col. 4, lines 60-67).

It is noted that Smith does not disclose a door member which covers an opening formed on the casing body, through which the data storage medium is inserted or ejected, in a closed position thereof, wherein the door member constitutes a part of an outer face of casing body at the closed position thereof, the door member being at the closed position after insertion or ejection of the data storage medium.

Kniazzezh is cited to teach a door apparatus (624, Fig. 6) for a memory card (28, Fig. 6). The door member (624) which covers an opening (26) formed on the casing body, through which the data storage medium is inserted or ejected, in a closed position thereof, wherein the door member constitutes a part of an outer face of the casing body at the closed position thereof, the door member being at the closed position after insertion or ejection of the data storage medium (see Fig. 6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Smith with the features of the door for a memory card as taught by Kniazzezh so as to prevent dirt getting into the memory storage space (see Fig. 6).

As to claim 7, it would have been obvious to have included an urging member which urges the door member toward the closed position so that the memory card can be secured inside the housing.

As to claim 14, Smith discloses the mouse comprising a cable ((108).

3. Claims 8-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith (US Patent No. 6,055,592) in view of Kniazzezh et al (US Patent No. 6,417,911) as applied to claims 2, 7 above, and further in view of Buras, Jr. et al. (US Patent No. 5,559,672).

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As to claim 8 and 9, it is noted that both Smith and Kniazzezh do not disclose a button member or ejector, to open the door member. Buras is cited discloses a door apparatus for memory card including a button member or ejector, which opens the door member against the urging force of the urging member when the button member is depressed (col. 6, lines 53-60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Smith and Kniazzezh with the features of the button member as taught by Buras so as to provide an easy way to eject the memory card from the housing.

As to claim 10, 13, Buras discloses the ejector includes a slider (44, 46) which is supported within the casing so as to be slidable in an inserting/ejecting direction of the data storage medium.

As to claim 11, it would have been obvious to designed a slider which can be fitted for the size or the shape of the memory card.

4. Claims 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith (US Patent No. 6,055,592) in view of Kniazzezh et al (US Patent No. 6,417,911) and as applied to claims 2, 14 above, and further in view of Armstrong (US Patent No 6,198,473).

As to claims 15-17, it is noted that both Smith and Kniazzezh do specifically disclose the cable is connected t a USB or PS/2 standard connector. It is also noted that both Smith and Buras do not disclose that the mouse is a wireless mouse. Armstrong is cite to teach a mouse can be either a wireless or a cable connection mouse (see col. 1, line 41). Armstrong further discloses the mouse can be connected to a USB or PS/2 standard connector of the PC (col. 22, lines 31). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Smith as modified with the features of the wireless mouse

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and the USB or PS/2 standard connector for a wire connection mouse as taught by Armstrong because the wireless mouse can provide a convenient way for controlling the cursor and the USB or PS/2 is a standard connector for the mouse connecting to the PC.

5. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith (US Patent No. 6,055,592) in view of Kniazzezh et al (US Patent No. 6,417,911) and Buras, Jr. et al. (US Patent No. 5,559,672) as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of Ackeret (US Patent No. 4,807,749).

As to claim 12, it is noted Smith, Kniazzezh and Buras do not teach the slider includes a moveable member which is exposed to the outside of the casing body. Ackeret is cited to teach a storage device which include a moveable housing which is exposed to the outside of the casing body so as to be movable in the inserting/ejecting direction of the data storage medium (see Fig. 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Smith a modified with the features of the movable housing as taught by Ackeret, so that the user can change the memory medium from outside of the device.

6. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith (US Patent No. 6,055,592) in view of Kniazzezh et al (US Patent No. 6,417,911) as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Futamura (US Patent No. 5,794,553).

As to claim 18, it is noted that Smith discloses that the memory card for storing alphanumeric data and symbol data but does not disclose that the removable storage medium is usable by a device other than the computer as auxiliary storage for reading and writing data. However, using a memory card such as a flash memory as an auxiliary storage for reading and writing data is well known in the art such as taught by Futamura

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(see Figs. 1 and 3 and col. 8, lines 26-32 of Futamura). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have used the flash memory as taught by Futamura for the memory card of Smith so that the computer can read the information from the memory card and also write the data to the memory card

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 3-6 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 11/25/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Smith does not disclose the data stored in the removable data storage medium bi-directionally between the personal computer and the data storage medium. This argument is not persuasive because Smith clearly discloses that the computer requests card data from a card reader interface and the card reader interface requests card data from a card in the card reader, and preferably, the card data is read from the card by the card reader and supplied to the converter via card reader interface (col. 4, lines 60-67). Thus, the computer is communicated with the removable data storage medium in a bi-directional way. With respect to the newly added limitation of "an auxiliary storage medium", Smith teaches that the card data read from the card in the mouse system matches the card stored in the computer, the access control program grants access to the computer, see col. 6, lines 19-21, in other words the card is an auxiliary storage medium from the computer since it stores data externally from the computer. With respect to the reference to Kniazzezh, applicant argues that Kniazzezh the door 624

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clearly protrudes from the surface of the device. This argument is not persuasive because the door 624 of Kniazzezh would constitute a part of an outer face of case body when the door is in a closed position.

Conclusion

9. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The US Patent No. 6,337,919 is cited to teach a mouse including a flash memory card.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **XIAO M. WU** whose telephone number is **571 272-7761**. The examiner can normally be reached on **6:30 am to 4:00 pm**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **PATRICK EDOUARD**, can be reached on **571 272-7603**. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

x.w.

February 20, 2006



XIAO M. WU
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2674